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INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State* P & O - ARAB-FR

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Action

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NEA VV FHE506VV HPA913
Info RR RUQMYS RUEHCR
G DE RUFHPA 343 07/1920Z
SAH R 071905Z ZEA
H FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
AF TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC 6339
EUR INFO RUQMVL/AMEMBASSY TELAVIV 100
FE RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 62
P RUQVWG/AMEMDASSY BAGHDAD 22
USIA RUQMDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 31
NSC RUQVRA/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 21
INR RUQVWK/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 3
CIA RUDKBT/AMEMBASSY RABAT 132
NSA RUQMYS/AMEMBASSY TUNIS 50
DOD RUDKPO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 44
RUFHDN/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1150
RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 732
ZEN/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW UNN
RMR ZEN/AMCONSUL HONGKONG UNN
ZEN/AMEMBASSY TAIZ
STATE GRNC
BT
S E C R E T MAY 7

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY S. Dunlap Peters DATE 3/2/84
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☒ RELEASABLE☒
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

FRENCH MISSILES FOR ISRAEL

EMBTEL 6292 NOTAL AND DEPCIRTEL 2154

EMBASSY CONSIDERS LABANESE PRESS REPORTS OF YEAR'S END FRENCH MD-620 MISSILE DELIVERIES TO ISRAEL COULD BE ISRAELI PLANT. HOWEVER, WHILE ISRAELIS MIGHT CONSIDER IT USEFUL LEAK STORY TO PRESS, IT IS FRENCH WHO WOULD SEEM BE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH "EASING REACTION TO LATER DISCLOSURE MISSILE DELIVERIES."

EMBASSY STRUCK BY TIMING OF LEAK VIZ. DURING FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT LEBANESE CHIEF STATE TO FRANCE SINCE END MANDATE. SINCE

PAGE 2 RUFHPA 343 S E C R E T
IT EVIDENT TO OBSERVERS HERE FRENCH DESIRED USE VISIT AS PEG MARK FRANCE'S RETURN IN GOOD STANDING TO ARAB INST (EMBTEL 6247),

(2)

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PUBLICATION THIS STORY LOOKS FROM PARIS AS POSSIBLE ATTEMPT STRAIN FRANCO-ARAB RELATIONS BY PUTTING FRENCH INTO SAME BOX IN WHICH GERMANS FOUND SELVES IN ARAB WORLD OSTENSIBLY AS RESULT FEDREP'S ARMS AID TO ISRAEL.

WHILE SITUATION SEEMS TO EMBASSY SUFFICIENTLY DISSIMILAR IN THAT AMONG OTHER FACTORS NASSER AND BENBELLA WISH FOR OWN REASONS MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH DEGAULLE AND MAY BE BETTER ABLE TO DO SO THAN WAS CASE IN GERMAN-ISRAELI-ARAB-SOVIET CONTEXT, FRENCH THOROUGHLY AWARE RISKS TO THEIR INTERESTS IN ARAB WORLD INHERENT IN THIS PROGRAM. ACCORDINGLY WE BELIEVE FRENCH WOULD NOT DELIBERATELY HAVE CONSENTED TO LEAK OF MISSILE STORY NOW.

GP-2 BOHLEN
BT